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*The Story of Edgar Sawtelle* by David Wroblewski, Ecco Press  
2008

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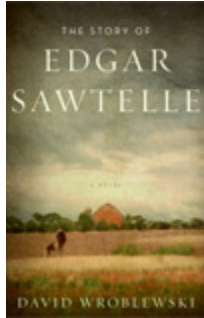
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### Recommended Readings



#### ***The Story of Edgar Sawtelle***

by David Wroblewski, Ecco Press 2008

Reviewed by Lacey Echols

The Story of Edgar Sawtelle is a simple one about a family breeding and training a line of exceptional dogs. The tale begins with the grandfather chancing upon an unusually bright dog which he cannot leave behind. With that background, Wroblewski moves forward and follows the sons and grandson who are still training new generations of dogs.

The story, however, is not a retelling of training techniques; the plot revolves around the mute grandson, Edgar. Edgar is clever and listens well. Without the ability to speak, he understands and participates in complex familial situations. The author carefully intertwines the appearance of a long-lost uncle, an old veterinarian who helps with the dogs, and the veterinarian's son who is the sheriff. There are enough secrets to make page turning an easy and rewarding activity.

The characters are realistic, and the development of the plot throughout the book is enjoyable. Wroblewski has a talent for telling a good story and making the reader eager to continue the journey. This 500-page book reads like a short story. If you like tales about families, boys, dogs, and a little mystery and suspense, grab a copy before they disappear from the library or store shelves. Read it, find a friend, and pass it along for someone else to enjoy.

- Lacey Echols is a lecturer in the Department of Mathematics at Butler University.